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PROGRAM The Rudy Maxa Show

STATION WRC Radio

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SUBJECT Government Leaks

RUDY MAXA: We're talking about government leaks. The Reagan Administration is going to try to plug them up now by requiring anybody in the government who deals with classified information to submit to a lie-detector test, if asked.

On the WRC Live Line with us for this half-hour is Mark Lynch. Mark is an attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union. And we were talking just a few seconds ago off the air about a subject I haven't brought up. Also in this proposed rule is the requirement that before a government worker writes about a subject [unintelligible] that he submit it to the government for approval. Mark Lynch is a good person to talk to about that because one of his clients is Frank Snepp, the CIA agent who wrote a book about America's disastrous withdrawal from Vietnam. The CIA went to court, and all the royalties that Frank Snepp now receives go to the government, if my memory serves on that.

Mark, I can guess how the ACLU feels about this, but would you like to put it in a nutshell?

MARK LYNCH: Well, unfortunately, the Supreme Court decision in the Snepp case opened the door to this. And it was only a matter of time before the government took advantage of what the Supreme Court had given them.

But you're quite right. The rule now is going to be that anybody, not just people in the CIA, but anybody in the government who has access to classified information is going to be required to submit any book or article or news column that they may write for the rest of their lives about anything that they've learned during the course of or as a result of their employment so that the government can determine whether there's